SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to make one submission through you. On behalf of the Opposition, I request His Excellency the Governor not to give assent to this Bill but put it in cold storage."

* SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP.—" Sir, the consent of the Governor comes only after the Bill is passed. The Bill has to go to the Council. I therefore wish to point out that the request is premature."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sir, this is the only opportunity where I can make such a request."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

' That the Madras General Sales Tax and the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Registration) (Amendment) Bill, 1955, as amended, be passed.' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

VII.—INFORMATION *RE* POLICE FIRING AT CUMBUM.

* SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, காலையில் எனக்கு ஒரு தந்தி வந்தது. கம்பத்தில் போலிசார் துப்பாக்கிப் பிரயோகம் நடந்து, கலவரம் ஏற்பட்டதாக ஒரு தந்தி வந்திருக்கிறது. அது சம்பந்தமாக நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களிடம் தகவல் கேட்டிருந்தேன். அவருக்கு ஏதாவது விவரம் தெரிந்திருந்தால், அறிவிகுமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition had received some telegram stating that there has been a Police firing resulting in heavy casualities in the Cumbum area. I had no information and I asked the Inspector-General of Police about it. He also had no information, but after that he sent a radio message and got the information. The situation is not so alarming as has been put in the telegram. Of course, there was an incident and I shall read out the message we have received :

'Cumbum' Jullakutu 1st April. Mob obstructed T.V.S. Bus at bus stop when a jallikut bull knocked against it. Mob tried to assault driver. Bus slowly brought to station. Driver removed from bus and given protection in police station. Mob demanded driver to be handed over and surrounded police station and pelted stones on the bus and the police station-buildings causing damage. Four policemen sustained injuries, not serious, by stone pelting. Mob riotous and refused to disperse despite warning. Lathi-charge was given but proved in-effective. Lives in imminent danger. Five policemen opened fire at 4–15 p.m. and two among the rioters injured, one on the waist and another on shoulder. Injuries not dangerous. Situation under control. I am investigating. Detailed report follows.'

This is the only message I have received so far."

SRI A. RAMASAMI TEVAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to make a request to the Government to hold the meetings of the Assembly at Ootacamund during summer."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Member had intimated me about this in my Chamber, I would have communicated it to the Hon. Minister and he would have come prepared with the answer."

VIII—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION *RE* ADOPTION OF THE ESTATE DUTY ACT, 1953 (CENTRAL ACT XXXIV OF 1953), IN THE STATE UNDER ARTICLE 252 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*Whereas Parliament has passed the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (Central Act XXXIV of 1953), and whereas it is desirable that estate duty in respect of agricultural land also should be regulated in the State of Madras by that Act;*

Now, therefore, in pursuance of Article 252 of the Constitution of India, this Assembly resolves that the Act aforesaid be adopted in the State of Madras and shall apply to matters which fall within entry 48 in List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.'

Sir, estate duty is a levy on the principal value of all property, settled or not settled, which passes on the death of a person to his heirs or successors-in-law. Under Article 269 of the Constitution of India, estate duty in respect of property other than agricultural land has to be levied and collected by the Government of India and assigned to the States. Under item 48 of List II in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, the State Legislature has got the power to legislate in regard to estate duty in respect of agricultural land. Under Article 252 of the Constitution, if it appears to the Legislatures of two or more States to be desirable that any of the matters with respect to which Parliament has no power to make laws for the States except as provided in Articles 249 and 250 should be regulated in such States by Parliament by law, and if resolutions to that effect are passed by all the Houses of the Legislatures of those States, it shall be lawful for Parliament to pass an Act for regulating that matter accordingly, and any Act so passed shall apply to such States and to any other State by which it is adopted afterwards by resolution passed in that behalf by the House, or, where there are two Houses, by each of the Houses of the Legislature of that State. The Parliament has passed the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (Central Act XXXIV of 1953), providing for the levy of estate duty on property including agricultural land, and it has come into force with effect from 15th October 1953. The Legislatures of certain other States had already passed resolutions that the levy of estate duty in respect of agricultural land in those estates be regulated by a Central Estate Duty Act. Under section 5 (2) of the Act, the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, add the names of any other States to this schedule in respect whereof resolutions have been passed by the Legislatures of those States under Article 252 of the Constitution adopting the Estate Duty Act, 1953, in respect of estate duty on agricultural land in those States. Sir, unless this resolution is passed by both the